



in Mesopotamia. For the numerous services rendered by the State to the Empire since 1914 His Highness has on various occasions received the following honours :—

- (i) A salute of 15 guns.
- (ii) Honorary Lieutenant-Colonelcy in the Army.
- (iii) G.C.I.E.

His Highness has not been unmindful of his obligations to his subjects. Realising the need to overhaul the system of administration and bringing it into line with modern requirements His Highness, in 1910, borrowed the services of a capable and experienced Civilian Mr. L. French, C.I.E., C.B.E., as Chief Minister. Mr. French was in the State for five years and during this period, under His Highness' orders and guidance, reorganised every branch of the administration and introduced many other reforms.

Efficiency is the keynote of the whole administrative system. The Maharaja habitually takes a large directing share in the transaction of State business. In the work of the administration he is assisted by his Chief Minister and a band of departmental officers, the majority of whom are local men belonging to old families of tried loyalty. In educational matters His Highness has always evinced a keen interest from the time of his accession to the present day; the expenditure under this head has steadily increased and now amounts to 2 lakhs roughly. The State possesses one College, three High Schools and about 58 Primary, Secondary and Girls' Schools. The number of Primary Schools is rising rapidly—in fact the State might almost be said to be doing pioneer work in the matter of diffusion of Primary Education. No fees are charged in the Primary Department and free compulsory education has, for the first time in the Punjab, been established within a limited area as an experimental measure.

Agriculture—that all important factor in the well-being of the mass of the people in this country—has also received its due share of attention. A considerable sum of money has been spent on an Agricultural Farm which has been recently opened with a view to demonstrate to the general body of cultivators the most up-to-date scientific methods of cultivation. Co-operative Credit Banks are steadily promoting the financial solvency and regeneration of the *Reminders* has made a...

KAPURTHALA STATE

Its Past and Present

COMPILED BY
AN OFFICIAL

Descriptive particulars of Armorial Bearings of Kapurthala State :—

1. *The Sword* represents the sword first worn by the Sikh Guru (Spiritual leader) Gobind Singh and then given by him to Mai Sundri. She presented it to Sardar Kapur Singh from whom it passed into the possession of Sardar Jassa Singh, founder of the Kapurthala Dynasty.
2. *The Crown* is the Symbol of sovereignty and power.
3. *Mark of Badge*: these are the emblems of the Chandarbansi origin of the Ahluwalia Dynasty.
4. *The Sun and Stars of the Shield*: these presumably refer to the order of G.C.S.I. conferred on His Highness the late Raja-i-Rajgan Sir Randhir Singh Bahadur.
5. *The Cannon* on the fesse represents the cannon presented to the State by John Hope Grant in recognition of its signal services at the Mutiny of 1857.
6. *The Elephant* is the emblem of India.
7. *The Horse* represents Raja 'Yudhistra's Yag-Horse, another indication of the Chandarbansi origin of the Dynasty.
8. *Kanwal Phool* (Lotus Flower): Ditto ditto.

This State lies along the eastern bank of the river Beas, and abuts upon the Hoshiarpore, Ferozepore and Jullundur districts on the north, south and east, respectively. The area, 652 square miles in extent, consists of three detached portions, the main block covering about three-fourths of the total acreage. The Ruler is also the owner of more than thirty villages situated in the Lahore and Amritsar districts and of large estates in the Province of Oudh, comprising 461,032 acres. Of the inhabitants, numbering about 284,070 persons according to the census figures of 1921, 22 per cent. are Sikhs, 20 per cent. Hindus, 56 per cent. Mahommedans and 2 per cent. other religions.

The Reigning House of Kapurthala claims to be an offshoot of the Rajput Ruling Dynasty of Jaisalmer. Owing to the inaccessibility of authentic records the activities and vicissitudes of the family in the remote past are shrouded in complete obscurity. With the dawn of the 18th century we are in a position to watch its varying fortunes until we see its head as the leader of an important branch of the Sikh Confederacy, popularly known as the Ahluwalia Misal, deriving its name from 'Ahlu,' a village in the Lahore district, the original birthplace and nursery of the Misal and which is still owned by the Ruler of Kapurthala.

Sadhu Singh, the Founder of Ahlu, had four sons, but all that is known of them is that they lived quietly in Lahore. Badar Singh, a great-grandson of Sadhu Singh, married the sister of one Bhagu of Tulsi, a shop-keeper of limited means, who became an ardent follower of Nawab Kapur Singh Fyzulpuria, from whom he received the 'Pohl.' Bhagu, afterwards known as Bhag Singh, played an important part in the history of those troubled times when robbers and desperadoes abounded, and knight-errantry was an attractive profession for adventurous spirits. Bhag Singh who was endowed with a genius for leadership soon rose to eminence among his contemporaries. He was constantly engaged in fighting and eventually lost his life in a battle with the Moghul Troops at Hariana. He was succeeded in the leadership of his confederacy by his nephew Jassa Singh who went through a more or less romantic childhood. He was born in 1718 and lost his father Badr Singh while he was hardly five years old. Bhag Singh, his maternal uncle, committed him and his widowed mother to the care of

Mai Sundri, wife of Guru Gobind Singh, then living at Delhi. At the age of 12 Jassa Singh was recalled to the Punjab by Bhag Singh, and on his departure Mai Sundri is said to have blessed the promising boy and presented him with a silver mace in token of his future greatness. The boy and his mother resided at Jullundur, where they frequently met the Fyzulpuria Chief. In the course of one of his visits to Bhag Singh's house, the Chief, it is stated, was so struck by the handsome face of the boy that he besought his mother to hand him over to his charge. She acceded to the request and from that day the Fyzulpuria Sardar treated Jassa Singh as his own son. As the boy grew up he was placed in high offices under the protection of the Sardar and soon came to be regarded as a leader of the future.

With the death of Aurangzeb the Moghul Empire embarked on a career of rapid decay. Within a decade India seethed with civil strife, and within the course of a generation the Provinces of Bengal, Oudh and the Deccan cut themselves adrift from Delhi and became independent principalities. The sudden rise of Mahratta power and the successive invasions of the relentless Nadir Shah accelerated the disintegration of the doomed Empire.

This *saue qui pent* chaos afforded an excellent scope for the free play of the martial instincts and political talents of Jassa Singh, whose religious zeal and sanctity had already achieved for him a position of undisputed authority among the Sikhs, so much so that the leading Sikh Chiefs, including Raja Amar Singh of Patiala, deemed it an honour to receive the 'Pohl' at his hands. During Nadir Shah's invasion of 1739 Jassa Singh lay hid in Muktesar in the Ferozepore district, but as soon as the invader retraced his steps he emerged as the leader of a vast host and built the Fort of Dhaliwala on the river Ravi, where he established his head-quarters. In 1743 at the head of a large body of horsemen he ambushed and attacked Diwan Lakhpat Rai, an official of the Governor of Lahore, who was conveying treasure from Eminabad. To this open challenge to his authority the Governor responded by deputing Adina Beg Khan, Governor of Bist Jullundur, to administer a severe lesson to the audacious Sardar. The latter and his followers suffered a serious reverse culminating in their retreat beyond the Sutlej. Shortly afterwards Jassa Singh collecting his scattered forces reappeared on the banks of the Sutlej and conquered an extensive territory. He was then joined by the Bhangi Sardars and

their combined forces devastated the country by their marauding excursions. Lachmi Narain, a Commander of the Moghul Troops, was sent at the head of a large army to punish the recalcitrant Sardars and succeeded in defeating them. Sardar Jassa Singh once again taking refuge in the hills north of the Sutlej. On the death of Zakria Khan, the Governor of the Punjab, in 1745 Jassa Singh, finding the central power shaken, descended to the plains and with the help of other Sardars raided Kasur. He was not able to accomplish much and in 1747 he and his co-adjutors sustained a severe defeat at the hands of Ahmad Shah Abdali near Sirhind. But soon after Ahmad Shah's departure from India Jassa Singh resumed hostilities against the new Governor of Lahore, Moin-ul-Mulk, commonly known as Mir Manu, and his deputy, Raja Gurdit Mal, who was Governor of Sialkot. Adina Beg Khan, the Governor of Jullundur, was attacked by Jassa Singh near Hoshiarpore but the action remained indecisive. This was quickly followed by a repulse of the army of Salabat Khan, Governor of Amritsar, who was slain, while a large part of the Amritsar district was brought under the sway of the *Ahluwalia* leader.

The fame of Sardar Jassa Singh's valour and political sagacity had now become so widespread that the Mahomedan Governors courted his help in settling their domestic quarrels. For example, he was invited by Mir Manu to expel Shah Niwas Khan, whom the Delhi Emperor had appointed Governor of Multan. In a stubborn battle which ensued the Emperor's nominee was killed and his army defeated. For his labours Jassa Singh was rewarded with a lion's share of the booty and high honours and dignities. In 1753 he defeated Aziz Khan, Commander of the Lahore Army, and a couple of years later at Kasur gained a signal victory over Adina Beg Khan, Governor of Jullundur, wresting from his adversary the possession of Fatehabad, a village on the Beas, which has ever since belonged to the Kapurthala State.

In the same eventful year. Nawab Kapur Singh Fyzulpuria died and Jassa Singh inherited all his influence. Kapur Singh was the first to organise the "Dal Khalsa," the Army of Sikh theocracy. On his detach-bed he handed over to Jassa Singh the steel Mace of Guru Gobind Singh* hailing

* This Historical Weapon is still reverently preserved in the Akal Bhunga of Darbar Sahib, Amritsar.

him as the leader of the Khalsa. The title of Nawab was subsequently awarded him by the representatives of the Sikh Confederacies assembled in a "Guru Mata" held at Amritsar about the year 1754, when he was also publicly acknowledged as the successor of the famous Nawab Kapur Singh. In 1756 Jassa Singh was in temporary occupation of Lahore, using the mint of the Moghuls to coin his own money which bore an inscription, the substance of which is as follows :—

"Coined by the Grace of God in the country of Ahmad, conquered by Jassa Singh."

In 1761 when two mighty armies were confronting each other on the fateful field of Panipat and the future of India hung in the balance, Jassa Singh, taking advantage of the situation, plundered Sirhind and Dialpur, seized Dogar and Nypal in the Ferozepore District (where he built small fortresses), and captured Jandiala from Saran Das. In the same year he took Hoshiarpore, Bhiroz and Naraingarh in Amballa, and realised a tribute from Rai Ibrahim Bhatti, Chief of Kapurthala. He then marched on Jhang but failed to attain his object owing to the stout resistance offered by Inayat Ullah Khan, the Sial Chief. On the return of Ahmad Shah Durrani to Afganistan the Sikh Chiefs united under the leadership of Jassa Singh and sacked Sirhind, the Governor of Lahore, Ubed Khan, being held a prisoner within the walls of the city. Jassa Singh captured Ludhiana, Govindwal, Saliala and Bhopala and carried his conquests as far as Tarn Taran in the Amritsar district.

Raja Jassa Singh then assisted the Bhangis and Sukarchakias in turning out Ubed Khan from Gujranwala and subsequently raided Shikarpore, Raipur and Mohamedpur lying towards the south of Jammu. His career of conquest was, however, checked by the rapid onward march of Ahmad Shah Abdali, who was reported to have recovered Lahore and Multan without a struggle. The "Dal Khalsa" proposed to give battle and encamped at Barnala, where a sanguinary engagement was fought on the 10th February 1762, which resulted in a crushing defeat of the Sikhs. The losses on the side of the Khalsa were so enormous that the bloody action was termed "Ghulu-Ghara" or the "great disaster." Ahmad Shah followed up his victory with a hot pursuit of the enemy who was eventually compelled to retire to the Kangra Hills. After the departure of Shah Jassa Singh formed a fresh alliance with the Ramgariah and Kanhia Misals and pillaged Kasur killing

the Pathan Commanders Alif Khan, Hassan Khan and Kamal-ud-din Khan. The Kasur territory was given to the Bhangi Chief who held it until 1794. The allies amassed a powerful army of 23,000, besieged and destroyed Sirhind, murdering Zen Khan, the Afghan Governor of Ahmad Shah and his deputy, Lachmi Narain. The conquest of Sirhind led to the subjugation of the whole of the surrounding territory. Jassa Singh proceeded in triumph to Amritsar to pay personal homage at the holy Shrine of Guru Ram Das and donated a large sum of money towards the re-consecration of the Temple.

In 1766 Jassa Singh, uniting his forces with those of Patiala and Jhind marched southwards, sacking Rewari, Jhajjar, Bhagpat *en route*, and captured Payal and Isru from the Kotta Afghans. By these operations he considerably added to his wealth a portion of which was distributed among his army. Two years later he penetrated into Ghazi-ud-din Nagar and Anupshahr near Delhi and severely defeated Mirza Sukhan, the Moghul General. Subsequently, he conquered Raikot then in the possession of the Pathans of Barwal, and in 1774 captured Kapurthala from Rai Ibrahim Bhatti and made the place his permanent head-quarters. Kapurthala remains the capital of the Ahluwalia State up to the present day. In 1776, Jassa Singh entered into an alliance with Jai Singh Kanhia, the Bhangis and the Sukar-Chakias against the Ramgariahs in order to avenge an attack by the latter on the Ahluwalias in the previous year. A severe battle ensued in which the Ramgariahs were worsted and, on the flight of their leader to Hariana, their possessions on the north of the Sutlej fell into the hands of the Ahluwalia Chief. Sardar Jassa Singh died at Amritsar in 1783 and was cremated at the Dera Baba Attal within the precincts of the Golden Temple, where his *smadh* stands by the side of that of his friend, philosopher and guide, Nawab Kapur Singh Fyzulpuria. Jassa Singh was tall, handsome and muscular. His arms were of unusual length. He was an excellent marksman with the matchlock and bow and stories are still current of his wonderful physical endurance and horsemanship. He is said to have triumphed over powerful opponents in personal combats with his massive sword*, his name being a terror to the enemy of the Khalsa in the second half of the eighteenth century. Yet he was simple and unostentatious in his habits. At the time of his death he possessed enormous wealth and influence. His policy was liberal and he was

* This ponderous weapon can still be seen in the State Toshakhana at Kapurthala:

singularly free from religious fanaticism and bigotry. He constructed at a great cost a magnificent reservoir at Anandpur and distributed alms freely among the *Sodhis* and other religious sects which were so numerous in his time. His hospitality was known far and wide. A contemporary chronicler thus describes the every-day life of this famous Sikh Chief. "The life of a Sikh Sardar, in the days of Jassa Singh, was very simple. At daybreak he would rise, perform his ablutions and dress, repeating the morning prayer or 'Sukhmani.' He then took his morning meal which consisted in Jassa Singh's case, of two pounds of flour and half a pound of sugarcandy. He then set about the business of the day, and at three o'clock in the afternoon he held a *Darbar*, or assembly, for all who chose to attend, when all matters of general interest were discussed. After the evening meal musicians played and sang hymns called 'Sabdh Rahras,' and an hour after sunset all retired to rest, having repeated the 'Ardas,' or 'evening prayer'."

Jassa Singh, being without male issue, was succeeded by his second cousin, Bhag Singh, who was then 38 years of age. His reign of 17 years was, comparatively speaking, uneventful. He formed an alliance with the Kanheya Chief and led an expedition against Wazir Singh and Bhagwan Singh, Sardars of the Nakka country lying between Gogira and Lahore. He also attacked the Ramgariahs and Gulab Singh Bhangi who, allied as they were with Raja Sansar Chand of Kangra, were able to defeat the Ahluwalias under Hamir Singh who was himself wounded in the conflict. Incensed at this result Sardar Bhag Singh at once made preparations on a larger scale and led his army in person as far as Phagwara, but illness supervened and he was brought back to Kapurthala where he died in 1801. His Mausoleum still exists near the Devi Talab at Kapurthala.

Raja Bhag Singh's only surviving son, and successor, Fateh Singh, who was born in 1784. The head of the Saker-Chakia Misal, Ranjit Singh, who was eventually destined to be known as the Lion of the Punjab, was then just emerging into prominence. For reasons of political expediency both these leaders entered into an offensive and defensive alliance in 1802. A treaty of perpetual friendship was signed at Amritsar and the Chiefs exchanged turbans in token of brotherhood, swearing everlasting goodwill on the sacred Granth. This document

Raja Bagh Singh.

Raja Fateh Singh

stipulated (*inter alia*) that they should lead joint expeditions and divide equally the fruits of conquest. The first united effort was an attack on the Pathans of Kasur in 1803 but the adventure was unsuccessful. For the next couple of years Sardar Fateh Singh confined his activities to consolidating his own territories and introducing an orderly system of government. In 1805 Jaswant Rao Holkar of Indore, after being defeated by Lord Lake in his own country took refuge in the Punjab and was anxious to form an alliance with the rising Sikh Confederacies against the British Government. With that object he marched to Amritsar to meet Ranjit Singh and Fateh Singh and although the former was ready to respond to Holkar's overtures the Ahluwalia Chief was impregnable. A treaty of friendship and amity was signed on the 1st January 1806, between the Hon. the East India Company and Sardar Ranjit Singh of Lahore and Sardar Fateh Singh Ahluwalia, the two Sardars undertaking to expel the fugitive Mahratta Chief from the Punjab and the British Government, on the other hand, promising to acknowledge the independence and integrity of their respective territories and to refrain from seizing or sequestering their possessions or property so long as they remained friendly to the British Power. This is believed to be the first treaty concluded between the British Government and any State in Northern India. It would be interesting to recall that as a mark of esteem and friendship Lord Lake presented Sardar Fateh Singh with a leopard, the Sardar returning the compliment by presenting a hawk to the famous General.

Sardar Fateh Singh invariably accompanied Ranjit Singh on his early expeditions to the north of the Sutlej and Jhang. In 1809 he took an active part in the invasion of Kasur which fell into the hands of the Sikhs after a fierce fight and was annexed to the Lahore Kingdom. In 1808 Sir Charles Metcalfe visited Lahore as the plenipotentiary of the British Government when Sardar Fateh Singh as the principal ally of the realm, was deputed to receive the distinguished guest. Sir Charles Metcalfe portrayed the character of the two allies in the following terms :—

“ The quiet character of Fateh Singh, who was the equal, if not the superior, in rank and power of Ranjit Singh, has yielded to the bold commanding spirit of the other and he has been the ladder by which Ranjit Singh mounted to greatness.”

Sardar Fateh Singh was present at Amritsar when the treaty between the British Government and the Maharaja was signed in 1809, under the terms of which the Sutlej was recognised as the limit of the British sphere of influence and the British Government undertook to respect the Maharaja's possessions on the north of that river. Ranjit Singh, at this period, reposed implicit confidence in his friend and ally, so much so that he left Sardar Fateh Singh in charge of the administration of his Kingdom during his absence from Lahore. Later on he accompanied the Maharaja on his expedition against Budh Singh of Jullundur, fought Fateh Khan, the Wazir of Kabul, at Haidra in 1813, helped the Maharaja in his Bhimbar, Rajori and Bhawalpur campaigns and was present at the arduous siege of Multan in 1818. He was placed in charge of the administration once again for two years when Ranjit Singh was busy conquering Kashmir.

Ranjit Singh's rapacious greed, however, made no exceptions even in the case of his sworn friends and allies. To all appearances scrupulously courteous and considerate to Sardar Fateh Singh, he at heart coveted the Ahluwalia possessions but the high reputation and popularity Sardar Fateh Singh enjoyed in Ranjit Singh's Army frustrated the crafty Maharaja's machinations for a time. Sardar Fateh Singh, steadfast as ever in his attachment to the Lahore Chief, scented danger and looked for an early opportunity to cast in his lot with the British Government. The Maharaja, however, stole a march over his faithful ally and in 1825 sent two battalions of the Khalsa Army under Faqir Aziz-ud-din and Diwan Anand Ram Pindari to seize the Kapurthala possessions on the north of the Sutlej. This manœuvre alarmed Sardar Fateh Singh and he shifted his head-quarters temporarily to Jagraon. The Kapurthala garrison was routed and the Ahluwalia Territory occupied by the Lahore Army. Sardar Fateh Singh sought British help but the Government, expressing sympathy in the Sardar's troubles, declined to interfere in view of the terms of the Treaty of 1809. Maharaja Ranjit Singh, apparently remorseful over his treacherous action, earnestly desired a reconciliation, undertaking to restore the usurped territory and maintain unbroken amity provided the Ahluwalia Sardar returned to his Capital. Accordingly, Sardar Fateh Singh returned to Kapurthala in 1827 where the restoration of his possessions was formally announced to him by a deputation of the Lahore Government.

The next occasion on which the Kapurthala State came into direct political touch with the British Government arose in 1817 in connection with the chiefship of Bhairog. The Bhairog estate, comprising about a hundred villages, was originally a gift conferred by Nawab Jassa Singh on a dependent named Mirza Singh as a reward for his loyal services. In 1810 Maha Singh (grandson of Mirza Singh) declined to obey the orders of the British Government on the ground that he owed allegiance to the Ahluwalia Darbar. Thereupon Sir David Ochterlony asked Sardar Fateh Singh to confiscate the estates of the contumacious Chief. Accordingly, the Sardar sent a strong force which defeated the Bhairog Chief and took possession of his estate. Maha Singh's conduct was subsequently condoned by the British Government and Sardar Fateh Singh was advised to restore the estate upon an assurance being given that Bhairog should always acknowledge the supremacy of the Ahluwalia Chief. This episode was followed by another incident known as the "Kotla" case. The small fortress of Kotla situated in the Cis-Sutlej Territories of the Kapurthala State belonged to a Pathan family represented by Nahang Khan whose ancestors were dependents of the Ahluwalias. This vassalage was, however, punctuated with frequent acts of revolt and insubordination. Sardar Fateh Singh, tired of this precarious state of affairs and anxious to assert his complete supremacy, attacked Kotla in 1822, occupied the Fort and bestowed it upon Balwant Khan, the younger brother of Nahang Khan, who acknowledged the Ahluwalia overlordship and promised feudal service. This proceeding was resented by the British Political Agent at Amballa, who referred the question to his Government. The British Government held that although Sardar Fateh Singh had asserted his claim to a fourth share of the revenues of Kotla in 1813 he had never done anything to protect the interests of the Kotla Chief from the encroachments of the Sikh Sardars, which as protecting authority it was incumbent upon him to do. He had further in a letter to Captain Birch in 1815 renounced his claim altogether to Kotla. These acts of omission and commission were held as conclusive proofs of the annulment of the Ahluwalia claims and the Ahluwalia nominee, Balwant Khan, was consequently expelled from Kotla and Nahang Khan reinstated in his fief.

Sardar Fateh Singh continued to enjoy the possession of his territories without molestation until 1836, when again the

unscrupulous Ranjit Singh broke his sacred vow and confiscated the outlying district of Phagwara which was, however, soon restored, as the Maharaja was fully conscious of the marked sympathy of the British Government towards the Ahluwalia Chief and dreaded their intervention in favour of the latter. Sardar Fateh Singh, despite such repeated provocations, remained true to the Lahore Chief. During his régime Sardar Fateh Singh enhanced the prestige of his illustrious house and consolidated and even added fresh territory to his State. He constructed many beautiful buildings in Kapurthala. The Hindu Temple, the Kamra Palace and the Shalamar Gardens bear ample testimony to the architectural taste and refinement of this noble Chief. He died in 1836 after a short illness and was succeeded by his elder son, Raja Nihal Singh, then just out of his teens. Maharaja Ranjit Singh, though profuse in his sympathy with the bereaved family, postponed his acknowledgment of Sardar Nihal Singh as Chief of the Ahluwalia House, until he had paid a sum of Rs. 4,00,000 to the Lahore Darbar and had agreed to provide 500 Infantry (in addition to 700 Cavalry originally supplied), all of which were to be placed at the disposal of the Khalsa Kingdom in times of emergency.

Raja Nihal Singh did not begin his reign under favourable auspices, since he at once found himself between the scylla of implacable hostility of his younger brother, Amar Singh, and the charybdis of constant intrigues of the wily Maharaja of Lahore. Amar Singh even planned his brother's assassination, which was averted through the plucky intervention of two loyal attendants who, in defending him, lost their own lives. With the view of putting an end to this family strife Raja Nihal Singh acting on the suggestion of Maharaja Ranjit Singh provided a Jagir of Rs. 30,000 per annum for Kanwar Amar Singh in the Sultanpur tehsil. No improvement in the relations of the two brothers ensued and secretly encouraged as he was by Ranjit Singh, Amar Singh would certainly have caused further trouble had not the hand of death rendered him everlastingly innocuous in 1840. Raja Nihal Singh's political tribulations were even more serious than his fraternal feuds. When Lord Auckland, Governor-General of India, visited the Punjab in 1838 the Raja was able to render important help in collecting and furnishing supplies for the British Troops on their march to Afghanistan and also despatched a contingent of his own Troops for active service in that country. But on the outbreak of the

first Sikh War the revolt of his Sikh soldiery made it impossible for him to respond to the British call for help and forced him to adopt an attitude inconsistent with his personal inclinations and the past traditions of his house. The rebels besieged and even bombarded the palace and hacked to pieces the Minister, Moulvi Ghulam Mohi-ud-din, who was believed to have advised his master to abide firmly by his engagements with the British Government. Flushed with this bloody victory at home the Ahluwalia troops appear to have fought against the British at Aliwal and Buddowal. This temporary aberration of the Troops resulted in the confiscation of the Raja's territories south of the Sutlej, comprising 454 villages and yielding a yearly revenue of Rs. 5,65,000, while the whole of the estates in the Jullundur Doab were maintained in his independent possession, his service engagements being commuted to a money payment of Rs. 1,31,000 a year. The Second Sikh War in 1848 gave Raja Nihal Singh an early opportunity of vindicating the honour of his House and State. He rendered valuable assistance to the British Government in collecting supplies and offered the services of his troops. At the close of the War the Governor-General visited Kapurthala and conferred on him signal marks of distinction. Raja Nihal Singh died in 1852 and was succeeded by his eldest son, Raja Randhir Singh.

Raja Randhir Singh was born in March 1831 and was ^{Raja i-Rajgan} in his 22nd year when he was called the ^{Singh, G.C.S.I.} gaddi of his ancestors. At a very early stage in his short but glorious career the Raja was plunged into the throes of protracted litigation that arose out of a will left by his father, which, if it had been fully enforced, would have wrecked the very existence of the Kapurthala State as we know it to-day. By this unfortunate document, dated the 11th July 1852, Raja Nihal Singh sought to parcel out the State into three parts, the major portion to be allotted to Raja Randhir Singh and the remainder yielding an income of two lakhs to be divided equally between his half-brothers, Kanwars Bikrama Singh and Suchet Singh. This dispute was finally settled by the Secretary of State on the basis of a cash allowance of Rs. 60,000 per annum for each of the two brothers, the State itself remaining in the sole possession of the Raja and his heirs and successors.

Thus Raja Randhir Singh may, in a sense, be regarded as the Founder of the present Kapurthala State to which he

succeeded in adding lustre by his splendid services and achievements during the Sepoy Mutiny in 1857. He placed all his resources at the disposal of Government, marched into Jullundur at the head of his troops, consisting of 1,200 Infantry, 200 Cavalry and 5 guns, guarded the Civil Station, the Treasury and the Jail and pursued the rebels. His troops also restored order at Hoshiarpur.

These signal services evoked a warm acknowledgment from the Government of India. One year's Military cash contribution was altogether remitted. A Khillat of Rs. 15,000 was conferred on and a salute of 11 guns was assigned to the Raja, who also received the honoured title of "Farzand-i-Dilband Rasikh-ul-Itiqad Daulat-i-Inglishia."

Not content with the part played by him in the suppression of the Mutiny nearer home the Raja, in 1858, proceeded at the head of his troops to Oudh where they participated in six engagements and captured several guns. The Raja was always personally in command of his contingent and never hesitated to brave danger and fatigue. On the successful conclusion of the operations the Raja and his troops returned to Kapurthala in March 1859. For these conspicuous services in Oudh Raja Randhir Singh was lavishly rewarded. The rich estates of Baundi and Bhitauli, yielding a yearly revenue of Rs. 1,00,000, were granted to the Raja on Istimrari tenure. The Bari Doab estates comprising 25 villages in the Amritsar district and 12 in Lahore, including the village of "Ahlu" and the Naraingarh Garden in the Amballa district were restored to the State, the Civil and Criminal jurisdiction continuing to vest in the British Government. The Ruler of Kapurthala was accorded precedence over all Taluqdars in Oudh and to mark his undoubted pre-eminence among them, Government styled him as "Raja i-Rajgan." He was also the happy recipient of the perpetual right of adoption in the case of failure of male issue.

On the 17th October 1864 Raja-i-Rajgan Randhir Singh was invested with the Insignia of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India at an investiture held specially for the purpose, which was attended by Their Highnesses the Maharajas of Kashmir, Patiala, Jhind, Faridkot and other Ruling Chiefs of the Punjab. The Raja-i-Rajgan was the first Punjab Prince to receive this signal honour from Her Majesty the late Queen Victoria, and the speech delivered by the famous Viceroy, Lord

Lawrence, in Hindustani on this occasion is remarkable for the eloquent tribute paid to the great services rendered by the recipient of the title and the high esteem in which he was held by the Imperial Government. Lord Lawrence spoke as follows :—

“ Raja Randhir Singh, Raja of Kapurthala, it is with much satisfaction that I find myself empowered by Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen of England to confer on you so great a mark of Her favour as that of the Star of India. This honour has only been granted to those Princes and Chiefs who unite high rank with great personal merit. It rejoices me to instal you among the chosen number.

“ Your grandfather, Sardar Fateh Singh, was a Chief of considerable renown. He was the well-known leader of the Ahluwalia Confederacy and companion-in-arms of the great Maharaja Ranjit Singh. Your father, Raja Nihal Singh, was an old friend of mine when you were yet a youth. When he passed away, Your Highness succeeded to his duties and responsibilities, and have worthily discharged them. When the Mutiny of 1857 broke out you were one of the foremost Chiefs of this country to do your duty and range yourself on the side of the British Government. After the fall of Delhi Your Highness headed your troops, conducted them to Oudh and there assisted in recovering that Province. For these services you received at the time much praise and liberal rewards ; and now, to crown all, you are about to obtain a most signal mark of honour from Her Majesty the Queen of England and India. In the name, then, of the Queen, and by Her Majesty's commands, I now invest you with the honourable Insignia of the Star of India, of which Most Exalted Order Her Majesty has been graciously pleased to appoint you to be a Knight Grand Commander. I have addressed you in Hindustani, in order that the Princes and Chiefs now present may the more readily participate in this ceremony and that your relatives and friends may be more highly gratified, otherwise I should have spoken in English, for I know that you thoroughly understand my language. This circumstance, no doubt, has operated as a bond of union between Your Highness and my countrymen.”

His Highness Raja Randhir Singh had long been contemplating a visit to England with the object of rendering personal homage to the great Queen and eventually arranged to undertake the trip in March 1870. Despite his indifferent health,

which began to show alarming signs of aggravation at Bombay, he decided to embark, but his condition became hopeless by the time Aden was touched. He transhipped to S. S. "Golconda" bound for Bombay and breathed his last on the 2nd April in mid-ocean. His remains were received at Bombay by his eldest son and successor, Raja Kharak Singh and some State Officials and conveyed to Nasik where they were cremated. A magnificent Mausoleum and Sarai mark the last resting place of this illustrious Ruler of Kapurthala in whom were exquisitely blended the qualities of a true soldier and a sagacious and farseeing statesman. He established a regular system of Law in the State, erected buildings of public utility, started Anglo-Vernacular Schools and generally improved the amenities of his Capital.

His Excellency the Viceroy conveyed his condolences in the following terms :—

"The British Government has lost in him an attached and valued friend, and a Chief who, by a vigorous and progressive administration, set an example to other Rulers. The valuable services which he rendered to Government in time of trouble and danger will never be forgotten."

Raja Kharak Singh, who was born in 1850, was installed on the Gaddi on the 12th May 1870.

Raja-i-Rajgan Kharak Singh The Raja commenced his rule by administering the State with zeal, but on his showing symptoms of mental derangement, the actual administration was entrusted to a Council of three members. This arrangement proved a failure and a British Officer of the Punjab Commission was appointed Superintendent of the State. Raja Kharak Singh never recovered normal health and died at Dharamsala in 1877, leaving an only son, Maharaja Jagatjit Singh, then a child of five summers.

Maharaja Jagatjit Singh, the present Ruler of Kapurthala, was born on the 24th November 1872, and was installed on the Gaddi on the 16th October 1877 by Sir Robert Egerton, the then Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab. During his minority the State was managed by a succession of brilliant British Superintendents, many of whom became, in due course, heads of Provincial Administrations in India. Among the most prominent of them were Sir Lepel Griffin, K.C.S.I.; Sir Mackworth Young, K.C.S.I.; Sir Charles Rivaz, K.C.S.I.;

His Highness Maharaja Jagatjit Singh Bahadur, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E.

Sir Fredrick Fryer, K.C.S.I.; and Sir Denzil Ibbetson, K.C.S.I. These Superintendents introduced several desirable reforms which were conducive to the efficiency of the administration and the general welfare of the people. The young Maharaja was carefully brought up and received a liberal measure of education. At an early age he showed a singular linguistic aptitude and acquired an intimate acquaintance with English and French, both of which he speaks fluently, besides learning Sanskrit, Hindi, Persian, Urdu and Gurmukhi.

In 1883 the Maharaja was betrothed to the daughter of Mian Ranjit Singh Gularia of Paprola, a high caste Rajput, and the ceremony of Shagun was performed by Raja Sir Jai Chand of Lambagraon, a Rajput Chieftain of the Kangra district. This alliance publicly recognised the claim of the Ruling Ahluwalia Family to Rajput origin. The marriage was solemnised with great pomp and éclat on the 16th April 1886. The wedding party consisting of representatives of all the important States of the Punjab, the élite of the Province and the State Officials, proceeded all the way from Kapurthala to Paprola. (The Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab and several high officials of the Punjab participated in the festivities at Kapurthala.) The important nuptial ceremonies were conducted by Thakur Mohar Singh, a cousin of the Maharawal of Jaisalmer, the Head of the Senior branch of that ancient House.

On the 24th of November 1890 His Highness the Maharaja Jagatjit Singh Bahadur, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., attained his majority and assumed the government of his State, the formal ceremony being performed by Sir James Lyall, the then Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab. The occasion was marked by scenes of befitting splendour, the whole State being *en fête*. At the Darbar, the Lieutenant-Governor spoke of the Prince and his illustrious family in terms of the highest regard and affection and expressed every confidence as to the future welfare of the State under His Highness' benign and enlightened rule and observed:—

“It is often said that the period of minority for Ruling Chiefs in India is dangerously short, and no doubt there is truth in the remark; but in your case, Raja, I have such confidence in the judgment and character, and in the ability and honesty of your excellent Staff of State Officials that I feel no apprehension.” Sir James expressed his hope that the gentle

and amiable disposition with which the Maharaja was gifted would make him a just and considerate Ruler of his subjects in the Punjab, and a liberal landlord of his great Estates in Oudh. He wound up by quoting the words of a famous English Poet that are well worth reproducing here :—

“ The glories of our birth and State,
Are shadows, not substantial things :
There is no armour against fate,
Death lays his Icy hands on Kings :
Sceptre and Crown must tumble down,
And in the dust be equal made,
With the poor crooked scythe and spade :
Only the memory of the just smells sweet and blossoms in the dust.”

In the evening a State Banquet was held at which Sir James Lyall in proposing the Maharaja's health delivered an eloquent speech, in the course of which he dwelt upon the cordiality that had always characterised the mutual relations of Ahluwalia State and the British Government and recounted the brilliant services rendered by His Highness' ancestors at a time of great peril to the Empire. He said : “ Raja Randhir Singh's services to the British Empire in the critical times of the Mutiny were of the most splendid kind. He most promptly and loyally led his army in person to fight in line with the Queen's troops ; and he displayed a personal gallantry in the field worthy of the best Sikh traditions. My own recollections of such services never grow cold. How warmly we recognised them at the time can, perhaps, hardly be realised by those who were not then in India. I came to the Punjab in those days, and the feeling between Englishmen and the Punjabis was then of the most cordial kind. The soldiers of both races had been fighting splendidly side by side, as they have done since in Afghanistan and were proud to be fellow subjects with them of the same Great Empire.”

The full titles of the Maharaja under which he assumed the Rulership were :—

His Highness Farzand-i-Dilband Rasikh-ul-Itiqad
Daulat-i-Englishia, Raja-i-Rajgan.

To these were subsequently added the title of hereditary Maharaja, G.C.S.I. and G.C.I.E. In addition to these, the Maharaja has also been the recipient of other honours at the

hands of the British Government from time to time. In December 1890, the Government of India, to mark its appreciation of the excellent administration during the present Maharaja's long spell of minority and in recognition of the valuable services rendered during the Afghan War, was pleased to raise the status of the State as regards complimentary Khillats from Rs. 4,500 to Rs. 6,000. In 1902, the powers of passing sentences of death were conferred on His Highness in perpetuity.

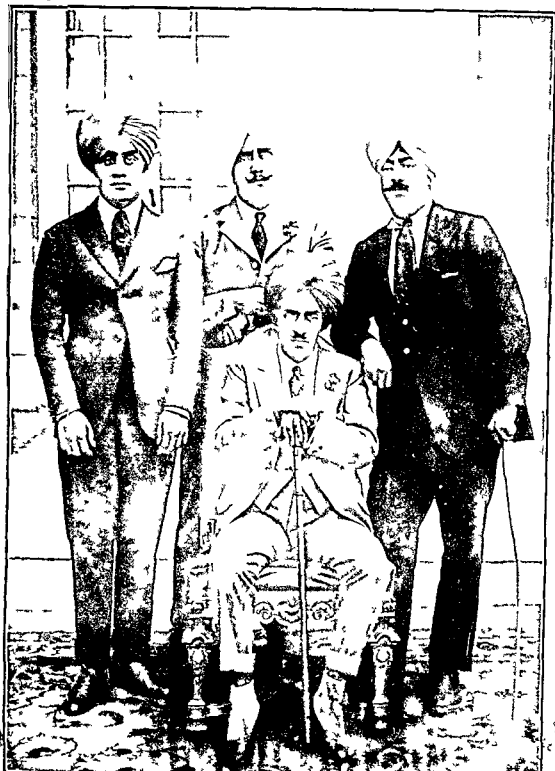
His Highness is a widely travelled Prince. He has been all over India, Europe, America, Egypt, China, Japan and Java. The first of his foreign visits was undertaken in 1893, when His Highness had the honour of being invited as a guest of Queen Victoria on the occasion of the marriage of His Imperial Majesty King George V (then Duke of York). During his peregrinations His Highness has always been very cordially received by the British Sovereign, and there is hardly a European potentate with whom he cannot claim the privilege of a personal acquaintance. He enjoyed the unique privilege of being present at the historic Peace Conference at Versailles in 1919. These tours, the experiences of some of which he has embodied in two highly interesting publications, apart from broadening his own mental outlook and invigorating his health, have been of practical value to the State in enabling His Highness to infuse a progressive spirit into his administration. Architecture has been one of His Highness' great hobbies. The most splendid abiding monument of his refined architectural taste is doubtless the new Palace which might appropriately be described as the Palace of Versailles of the Orient. This colossal structure, the foundation of which was laid in 1902, took seven years to build at a cost of thirty four lakhs of rupees. Among other buildings the most notable are the Villa Buona Vista, the Sikh Temple and the Jubilee Hall. The Château and the renovated Kapurthala House are, by common consent, striking architectural embellishments of Mussoorie and Lahore, respectively.

His Highness is blessed with five sons and one daughter. The eldest son, Sri Tikka Paramjit Singh Bahadur, was born on the 19th of May 1892, and this happy event was marked by great festivities and rejoicings throughout the State. The up-bringing and education of the young Princes was carefully planned and directed by the Maharaja. They were first placed under the tuition of competent English and French governesses

and tutors in Kapurthala and received the finishing touches in Europe.

The Tikka Sahib returned to Kapurthala in 1910. His marriage with Princess Brinda Mati, a daughter of Kanwar Ghambir Chand of Jubbal, was solemnised amidst scenes of remarkable splendour and rejoicing on the 2nd of February 1911. The Tikka Rani Sahiba who, thanks to the foresight of His Highness the Maharaja, had the rare advantage of having been brought up in France is an accomplished young Princess. A large number of distinguished guests hailing from various parts of India and France contributed to the grandeur of the occasion by their presence. Chief among them were Their Highnesses the Maharajas of Kashmir and Jhalawar, His Highness the Agha Khan, the Rajas of Poonch, Lambagraon, Nurpore and Jasuan, His Royal Highness Prince Antoine d'Orleans, Prince and Princess Amédée de Broglie. The ceremony of Sehrabandi in the great Darbar Hall was an imposing scene. The Sehra was tied round the Tikka Sahib's turban by His Highness the Maharaja of Kashmir. On this occasion numerous loyal and congratulatory addresses were presented to His Highness the Maharaja by several associations and diverse classes of His Highness' subjects, to which the Maharaja made suitable replies. To mark this auspicious occasion His Highness announced that in future Primary Education would be made free in the State and Begar would be abolished. On the conclusion of the marriage His Highness took a few of his principal European guests to his Oudh Estates where an interesting shooting programme had been arranged.

The marriage of the second son, Maharaj Kumar Mahijit Singh Sahib, who returned to India in 1912 after completing his education, was celebrated in November 1913, when Kapurthala was again *en fête*. The bride belonged to a high caste Rajput family of Chandpore in the Kangra district. The festivities were attended by several prominent people of the Province and by deputations from Kashmir, Baroda, Patiala, Bahawalpore, Rampore and other States. The ceremony of Sehrabandi was performed with befitting pomp in the Darbar Hall, where deputations from the States presented the customary tambol. As on the occasion of Sri Tikka Sahib's wedding, the main feature of the ceremonies from the spectacular point of view was the marriage procession consisting of troops and richly caparisoned elephants bearing the Granth Sahib; the



“To the general body of my subjects I have the following announcements to make:—It will be within your recollection that last February on the occasion of the Tikka Sahib's wedding I directed the total abolition in the State of the system of Begar. I now propose to grant a further kindred concession. It has hitherto been my right as Ruler of the State to take from my subjects certain dues on occasions of weddings and mournings in my Family, and this right is duly recorded in the State archives. It is my pleasure that in future, in commemoration of this Darbar, such rights shall be abrogated. No such dues shall in future be claimed and the record of them shall be expunged from the archives. Furthermore, in celebration of this heavy event, I direct that a sum be allocated from the Treasury sufficient to provide a yearly maintenance for a hundred poor widows during their lifetime.

“At the last Education Darbar I announced improvements to be effected in the quality of the instruction to be imparted in schools at a considerable cost to the State. I now propose to add a substantial recurring grant to the Educational Budget with a view to the establishment of further Primary Schools which will assist in meeting the growing popular demand. I hope to be able to devise for you, Zemindars, some system of Co-operative Banks, so impressed am I with the advantages which will accrue from the prosperous establishment of these institutions.

“The improvement of the State's internal communications has now become a question of increased importance. If we are to take full advantage of the new Railway being constructed it is essential to provide it with great feeder roads, and special attention will now be devoted to this subject, as well as to the creation of the market places at towns of Kapurthala and Sultanpore with a view to the provision of general facilities and the augmentation of the prosperity of these towns.

“Lastly, I have it in contemplation to provide, as soon as arrangements can be made, a water-works and drainage scheme for the Capital.

“In conclusion, I pray that your hope of peace, prosperity and contentment may by God's grace be realised to the full, for the welfare of my State is ever in my thoughts.”

The Maharaja was one of the Punjab Princes who took part in the State entry of the Viceroy (Lord Hardinge) into the Imperial Capital, which was unfortunately marred by

the dastardly anarchist attempt made on His Excellency's life—an outrage that evoked horror and condemnation throughout the length and breadth of this country.

During His Highness' reign Kapurthala has received visitors of high rank and Royal birth from time to time. The Marquis of Dufferin and Ava and His Royal Highness Prince Albert Victor of Wales, visited Kapurthala in 1887 and 1890, respectively. The various Lieutenant-Governors of the Punjab have gladly accepted the Maharaja's hospitality during their term of office. It would not be amiss to make more than a passing reference to some recent visits of such distinguished personages.

On the 7th of April 1913 Sir Louis Dane paid a farewell visit to Kapurthala. A Darbar was held at which His Honour presented to His Highness the Sanad of the title of Hereditary Maharaja. In a short congratulatory speech delivered at the Banquet in the evening, the Lieutenant-Governor paid a warm tribute to the Maharaja's conspicuous services and complimented him on the successful administration of the State. His successor, Sir Michael O'Dwyer, K.C.S.I., I.C.S., paid his first visit to Kapurthala early in 1913. After the usual Mizajpursi and exchange of formal visits His Honour reviewed the Imperial Service Regiment and complimented the officers and men on their smart turn-out. The Lieutenant-Governor also laid the foundation-stone of the New Randhir High School, and in his speech on the occasion eulogised the remarkable progress made in education during His Highness' Rule. Education, he said, had made great strides within the last few years, a result which was very creditable to the Darbar. It could stand comparison with that of any part of British India, and in some respects, Kapurthala State had even made greater advance than they, for Kapurthala had remitted all fees in Primary Schools since 1911, an aim which the Punjab Government had long had in view, but which as yet they were unable to carry out. These results had not been achieved without considerable expense and sacrifice, and His Highness was to be congratulated on the wise and liberal policy he was pursuing. The Lieutenant-Governor felt confident that the building, of which he was about to lay the foundation-stone, would prove worthy of its Founder, the Raja Randhir Singh, worthy of its builder, his friend the present Maharaja, and worthy of the fine traditions of the Kapurthala House.

At the Banquet held in the State Dining Room at the Palace the same evening, His Highness proposed the Lieutenant-Governor's health in an interesting speech in which, among other things, he briefly recapitulated the past record of the State. In replying His Honour said (*inter alia*):—"I thank Your Highness most heartily for offering me so cordial a welcome to Kapurthala, and for the very kind terms in which you have proposed my health, and you, gentlemen, for the hearty way in which you have responded to it. I had heard much of Kapurthala, of its far famed hospitality, of the beautiful places and gardens with which Your Highness has adorned it, of its efficient public institutions, of its wide and progressive administration under Your Highness' guidance, and of the fine body of Imperial Service Troops, which the loyal devotion of Your Highness has put at the disposal of the King-Emperor, and which had its baptism of blood in some of the severest fighting of the Tirah Campaign. It was, therefore, with particular pleasure that I looked forward to seeing something of all these of which I had heard so much. Your Highness' courtesy and hospitality during the last few days has afforded me the opportunity I desired, and I may venture to say that high as were the anticipations I had formed they have been more than realised.

"It is the proud claim of the Paramount Power that the loyalty to the Government and devotion to the throne are not allowed to pass unrequited. Hence, as the representative of that Power in the Punjab, I rejoice in the steady progress of the State and its Rulers in prosperity, in honour and in dignity, and in seeing Your Highness wearing the Insignia of the G.C.S.I., a proud distinction which is at present possessed by you alone in the Punjab, and which I have no doubt is the more valued by Your Highness, as it was conferred on you with his own hand by His Majesty the King-Emperor at the Coronation Darbar.

"For the same reason it was with the great satisfaction that I have heard from Your Highness that the revenues of the Oudh Estates, which were conferred on your gallant and illustrious grandfather, Raja Randhir Singh, G.C.S.I., for his splendid services in the critical days of 1857 and 1858, are now almost equal to those of your hereditary possessions. The expansion of revenue in Oudh as in the Punjab is, I am sure, a result of the wise and progressive administration to which Your Highness makes such a modest reference, but

which is all the more effective because it works quietly and unostentatiously."

In October 1913, Kapurthala had the honour of a visit from His Excellency Lord Hardinge, Viceroy and Governor-General of India. His Excellency arrived at Kapurthala on the morning of the 15th October and was received at the Station by His Highness the Maharaja, the Tikka Sahib and the principal State Officials. Soon after His Excellency's arrival at the Palace the Maharaja paid him a formal visit which was returned in the big Darbar Hall which was gorgeously decorated and packed with officials and rural and urban gentry. On the following morning His Excellency held a Review of the Imperial Service Regiment and highly admired the splendid appearance of officers and men. After the Review His Excellency performed the opening ceremony of the New Grain Market called after him, the Hardingegunj and then visited the State Jewellery. The afternoon was spent on the Beyn where the scenery is strikingly reminiscent of an English River. The route from the Beyn to the Palace was illumined with blazing torches and the Tirah Memorial hung with festoons of Chinese Lanterns presented a fairy-like scene. The evening function was the State Banquet to which a large number of guests were invited. In proposing the health of his illustrious guest His Highness said :—

"YOUR EXCELLENCY AND GENTLEMEN,

"I cannot adequately express my sense of joy at the honour and pleasure of receiving a visit from Your Excellency. Perhaps it is not generally known that my great-grandfather, Raja Nihal Singh, received a visit in this State from my distinguished guest's grandfather, Sir Henry Hardinge, Governor-General of India, in the year 1846. I was reading with great interest the other day the account of the exchange of visits which took place between my ancestor and His Excellency's grandfather on the occasion, and the great courtesy and friendship shown by Sir Henry Hardinge to Raja Nihal Singh.

"Gentlemen,—It is needless for me to dwell on the statesmanlike abilities of His Excellency and how he has endeared himself to the princes and the people of India by his personal charm and perfect affability of manner, and I am sure all the other Ruling Princes are most grateful to him for the thorough regard he has invariably

shown for their position and dignity, the entire confidence he has always placed in them and the free and easy access he has afforded them to approach him on all State and personal affairs. These indeed have been profoundly appreciated by us all, and have induced us to the belief that he is the most sincere and genuine friend the princes have had among those who held the reins of the Viceroyalty of this great Empire.

“Your Excellency,—The loyalty and devotion of my House and State to the Paramount Power is so well known that it is hardly necessary for me to say anything more than that I have, and will always follow in this matter the good example of my illustrious ancestors. It is now 36 years ago as a minor of five that I succeeded to the State, and since I came of age and was invested with the full powers of a Ruler in 1890, I have tried to do my duty towards the true advancement and welfare of my people and my State.

“I am exceedingly sorry and much regret Her Excellency's absence here on this occasion, and I ask you, gentlemen, to join me in drinking to the health, long life and prosperity of His Excellency Lord Hardinge, Viceroy and Governor-General of India.”

His Excellency the Viceroy in responding to the toast spoke as follows:—

“YOUR HIGHNESS AND GENTLEMEN,

“It is with a double pleasure that I rise to acknowledge the cordiality and friendliness of the words which Your Highness has just spoken, for not only has my visit to this interesting and progressive State been in itself a matter of great enjoyment, but there has been the added satisfaction that Your Highness and I have renewed and cemented a hereditary friendship. I am deeply sensible of the appreciative allusion which your Highness made to my grandfather, and I am glad to think that you were able to look upon him as a sincere and genuine friend of Your Highness' ancestor, Raja Nihal Singh, and of the Princes of India generally. On my part, I can only say that I heartily reciprocate the feelings of personal good-will to which Your Highness has given expression, and if, at the end of my tenure of office I too am regarded by the Chiefs as an earnest and true friend of theirs, I shall feel that my sojourn in India will not have been in vain.

“Your Highness has wisely continued the system of administration set on foot during Your minority by the officers lent

to the State by the Government. It is a guarantee of the soundness of that system and must also be a matter of satisfaction to Your Highness that no less than four of these officers, Sir Mackworth Young, Sir Charles Rivaz, Sir Fredrick Fryer and Sir Denzil Ibbetson, were afterwards selected for important Lieutenant-Governorships. The State revenues are rapidly expanding, the various departments are being improved and perfected. The new water-supply and the many new Public Institutions, notably Randhir College, which the Lieutenant-Governor has recently opened, have made the Capital a town well equipped as regards modern requirements for the health, comfort and moral advancement of the people.

"Your Highness, yourself a traveller and a writer, has realised the importance of the education of your children to which you have devoted much care and thought and I am very pleased to have seen something of them during my stay here. I trust that the educational advantages that they have received may be utilised in the service of the State.

"I will detain you no longer. Before concluding, however, I wish to express Lady Hardinge's regret that she was unavoidably prevented from accepting Your Highness' very kind invitation to visit Kapurthala. I wish also to express my thanks for the hospitality and kindness Your Highness has shown us during our stay, and for the admirable arrangements for our comforts and enjoyment."

In February 1919, His Highness received a visit from His Excellency Lord Chelmsford, Viceroy and Governor-General of India. The arrangements for his reception and entertainment were almost identical with those made on the occasion of Lord Hardinge's visit in 1913. At the Banquet His Highness proposed the health of his distinguished guest in the following terms :—

"YOUR EXCELLENCY AND GENTLEMEN,

"It goes without saying that a visit of the august Representative of His Imperial Majesty the King-Emperor to an Indian State is always a mark of signal distinction and a source of genuine pleasure for its Ruler and his people. But the event becomes all the more welcome when he happens to be a statesman who has ever since the assumption of his exalted office sought to advance the best interests of the Order to which it is my privilege to belong and has drawn closer the bonds that link its members and their States to the Paramount Power. Such a

personage is the distinguished nobleman in whose safe-keeping the destinies of the great Empire of India are at the present moment fittingly reposed and whom I have the honour to entertain to-night. The free personal exchange of views between the Ruling Princes and the high dignitaries of the Government of India on matters of vital import to the States or of joint concern, rendered possible by the annual Conferences at Delhi, the admission of the Princes into the innermost Councils of the Empire and, last but not least, the frank recognition, in the Indian Reforms Report, of their historic position in the body politic of India and the regard shown therein for their rights, prerogatives and prestige are measures which have won for His Excellency Lord Chelmsford the sincere gratitude of us all and will constitute a lasting monument of his far-seeing constructive statesmanship. We are all aware that His Excellency succeeded to the helm of affairs in this country at a most critical epoch in the history of our world-wide Empire. How he steered the ship of State through those momentous and anxious times, with what remarkable success India's vast man-power and material resources were exploited for the service of the common cause and to what a high pinnacle the fair name of this ancient land has, in consequence, been lifted are facts too patent to need any emphasis or elaboration from me. Suffice it to say that the Viceregal mantle has never fallen on more worthy shoulders.

"Your Excellency,—It is scarcely necessary for me to dwell on the tried loyalty and devotion of my House and State to the Person, Throne and Government of our beloved King-Emperor. To this fact the annals of the Indian Mutiny, the second Sikh War, the Afghan Wars of 1877-78, and the Tirah Campaign of 1897 bear sufficiently eloquent testimony. But I am naturally reluctant to let this opportunity pass without giving expression to the deep satisfaction I experience in reflecting on the part this State has borne in the War that has only recently been brought to a triumphant conclusion. *Vis à vis* the colossal efforts of our Empire may share would, doubtless, appear like a drop in the ocean. None the less, I shall ever recall with a feeling of pride that in the Empire's hour of need my State and I grudged no sacrifice or endeavour. Your Excellency's distinguished predecessor standing in this very room over five years ago, months before the unsuspecting world received a rude awakening at the hands of the then masters of Germany, in complimenting my Imperial Service Troops on their efficiency almost prophetically observed: 'I am confident that, were the

need to arise again for their services in the field, they would acquit themselves worthily and bring fresh honour to their State and to their Ruler.' I rejoice that Lord Hardinge's confidence has been so quickly justified by later events. Directly on the outbreak of the war I placed the Regiment at the disposal of the Imperial Government. It was 600 strong then and by the time the unit returned home after $3\frac{1}{2}$ years' employment on active service in East Africa its total strength had risen to 1,000 and, subsequently to 1,200. In response to the stirring appeal of the Prime Minister in May last I offered, as Your Excellency will recollect, to raise the number to 1,600. The manner in which my troops acquitted themselves in the field is known to no one better than Your Excellency but for me it is enough to realise that in one theatre of War at least they were able to co-operate in shattering the much-vaunted might of the foes of the Empire. It was my fond desire, wholly shared, I believe, by the officers and men themselves that it might fall to their lot to take part in the epic victories our armies were then achieving on other fronts. Indeed, the unit was thoroughly re-fitted and was on the eve of departure for Mesopotamia when the sudden débâcle of Germany and her Allies terminated hostilities early in November last. Before leaving this theme I cannot omit a thankful acknowledgment of the valuable assistance I have always received from the Inspector-General of the Imperial Service Troops, the Inspecting Officer and the Special Service officers attached to my Regiment for the period of the war.

"I do not wish to weary my audience with the details of the other activities of my State in connection with the great crisis. But I would like to mention that we managed to supply nearly 4,000 recruits to the Indian Army and, despite our heavy military commitments, to contribute nearly 12 lakhs to the various War Loans and 3 lakhs towards the extraordinary expenses of the War.

"Intensely gratifying as this record is for me it is now a reminiscence. As to the future, while devoutly hoping that the world will never again witness a repetition of the sanguinary struggle of the past four years and that universal peace may reign for ever, I can confidently assure Your Excellency that should an emergency arise, this State, inspired by its time-honoured traditions, will not fail to rise to the occasion and afford a fresh proof, if indeed such were needed, of its abiding attachment to the Imperial House of Windsor and the Empire.

"Your Excellency,—As regards our internal affairs I propose to confine myself to a few general observations. I have been exercising full ruling powers for more than 28 years and during this long period I have always essayed to forward the moral, social and material welfare of my people, whose affection and contentment, upon which I know I can fully rely, I regard as an adequate recompense for my labours. Educational and medical institutions have been provided at convenient centres. Municipalities and Local Boards, partly elected and partly nominated, administer civic and rural affairs, respectively. Free Primary education has been introduced at large. I have lately made it compulsory in selected areas experimentally. Neither has its female aspect been neglected. The capital enjoys the benefits of drainage and water-works schemes completed on scientific lines at a considerable cost. The income has grown from 21 lakhs in 1890 to 35 lakhs. I am fostering with particular care the movement of Agricultural Co-operative Credit. With a view to bringing the modern methods of cultivation within easy reach of my people I have recently organised a department of Agriculture and Industries which has commenced its useful career under the guidance of an expert officer whose services Your Excellency's Government have been kind enough to lend me recently.

"Your Excellency,—I trust it will be clear from this outline of some of the broad features of my administration that this State is steadily striving to respond to the spirit of the times.

"Gentlemen,—I am sure you will echo my deep regret that Her Excellency Lady Chelmsford, who has so thoroughly endeared herself to all and sundry by her broad-minded sympathy with the cause of Indian womanhood and by her numerous other acts of charity and benevolence, is not here to grace the occasion by her presence. But the regret is tempered by the hope that Her Excellency is enjoying her brief stay at home and that she will soon be back in our midst to resume the noble tasks she has been pleased to take upon herself.

"Gentlemen,—Let me now call on you to unite with me in drinking to the very best health, long life and prosperity of His Excellency the Viceroy—my distinguished and esteemed guest."

The Viceroy responded as follows :—

"YOUR HIGHNESS AND GENTLEMEN,

"First let me thank Your Highness for the extremely kind words in which you have proposed my health and expressed

great regret at the unavoidable absence of Lady Chelmsford. I appreciate greatly the warmth of the welcome which I have received during this, my first visit to the Kapurthala State, and I shall not easily forget the hospitality of its enlightened Ruler.

"Your Highness has alluded to the war record of the Kapurthala Imperial Service Troops, a record of which any State might well be proud. The quality of Your Highness' troops is shown by the long list of distinctions gained by the officers and men of the Kapurthala Infantry during $3\frac{1}{2}$ years of arduous campaigning in unhealthy surroundings and a particularly difficult country against a determined and elusive enemy. The Regiment was complimented for its excellent work by the General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, East African Expeditionary Force, and several of its officers received various distinctions. Major-General Sardar Pooran Singh was awarded a C.I.E., Colonel Nihal Singh, the Officer Commanding the Regiment, received the 2nd class of the Order of British India and one Indian Distinguished Medal, ten Meritorious Service Medals and one French Médaille Militaire were won by various non commissioned officers and men. Not only has the Kapurthala Infantry distinguished itself in the manner I have described, but the State has supplied the large number of 4,000 recruits for the ranks of the Indian Army at considerable cost. But man-power has not been the only direction in which Kapurthala had helped towards the defeat of the enemies of the British Empire. Your Highness has caused nearly 12 lakhs to be invested in various war loans: English, Indian and French, and cash contributions have been made on a considerable scale to various charitable and other funds connected with the prosecution of the war.

"In recognition of the services rendered by the Kapurthala State, Your Highness' salute was raised to 13 guns and the share taken by Your Highness in the results achieved was recognised by the grant of a personal salute of 15 guns and of the rank of Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel in the Army. Your Highness' third son, Captain Kanwar Amarjit Singh, also worthily upheld the military traditions of the Kapurthala House by serving in France with the 3rd (Lahore) Division and in recognition of his services received the honorary rank of Captain in the Army, while Khan Bahadur Sardar Abdul Hamid, Your Highness' capable Chief Secretary, was made an Officer of the Order of the British Empire for his meritorious services in connection with the war,

“ Lord Hardinge, during his visit to Kapurthala, in 1913, remarked in terms of appreciation on the able manner in which the administration of the State was conducted and dwelt on the success of Your Highness' efforts in this direction as worthy of all praise. I am glad to learn that the State continues to enjoy the benefits of Your Highness' wise and progressive rule, that the system of administration has earned the gratitude and contentment of your people and that the finances of the State are in a flourishing and prosperous condition.

“ Your Highness has recently given one more proof, though none was needed, of the loyalty of the Kapurthala State to the British Government. During the recent troublous times through which the Punjab passed as a result of the influx of seditious agitators and returned emigrants the State co-operated whole-heartedly with the Punjab Government in its efforts to extirpate crime and to bring the guilty to justice. The movements of such of these persons as entered the State were kept under careful surveillance and the efficiency of the State Police was demonstrated by the success which was achieved.

“ The success of Your Highness' policy in utilising local talent in the service of the State has been justified by the results attained. I learn with satisfaction that except for a few technical officers all the officials of the State belong to local families, and that many of them have been educated in Europe at the expense of the State. The Heir-apparent devotes himself generally to the service of the State, while Your Highness' second son has been a judicial officer and your third son is now Director of Police and Education.

“ Gentlemen,—I need say no more to demonstrate the admirable results of the sagacious and far-sighted policy adopted by His Highness in all branches of the administration of his State. I ask you now to drink to the health of our distinguished host, His Highness the Maharaja of Kapurthala and to the continued prosperity of the Kapurthala State.”

Early in March His Honour Sir Michael O'Dwyer paid His Highness his valedictory visit. At the State Dinner in the evening the following speeches were made :—

His Highness said :—

“ YOUR HONOUR AND GENTLEMEN,

“ I rise with mixed feelings to propose the health of my distinguished guest, His Honour Sir Michael O'Dwyer. I am delighted to have this opportunity of heartily welcoming His

Honour once again and of publicly testifying to the warm friendship and esteem I entertain for him. At the same time it saddens me to think that this visit marks the impending severance of his official relations with me and my State.

"Gentlemen, we are all aware that Sir Michael's tenure of office has been of a most strenuous character. Throughout the best part of it the Empire was involved in the greatest war in history. Upon the man-power of this province, aptly described as the sword-arm of India, devolved the brunt of the responsibility for meeting the expanded needs of the Indian Army. By its ardent response the Punjab not only led the way but also surpassed its own glorious traditions. Equally earnest was the Punjab in other directions in connection with the war. While His Honour was busy inspiring the activities of the province and mobilising its resources in a manner so completely effective he was called upon to face an internal situation of a particularly alarming nature.

The heavy burdens of His Honour's high office were thus rendered exceptionally onerous. But I am sure the memory of the masterly skill with which he coped with every emergency that arose and of the success with which he rallied the Punjabis round the common cause will fill him ever more with profound satisfaction and that he will look back upon these results as the most signal of the numerous achievements of his long and brilliant career. He will have every right to point with pride to the fact that in contributing to the Empire's splendid triumph the Punjab under his sagacious guidance bore no unworthy share. Speaking for myself and my State I rejoice to seize this occasion thankfully to acknowledge the regard and consideration His Honour has consistently shown in his official and private dealings with me and the wise counsel and assistance I have never failed to receive from him. In His Honour's time not a single contretemps has disturbed the harmonious relations that have subsisted between this State and the Punjab Government and the successive Political Agents across the long space of 28 years during which I have held charge of the destinies of my people and have endeavoured, according to my light, to promote their moral and material well being. Mutual co-operation has been the keynote of our policy. Moreover, here in Kapurthala his régime as Lieutenant-Governor will be associated with the higher status and prestige this State and its Ruler have acquired as a consequence of the honours recently conferred by His Imperial Majesty.

"Parting from such a true friend cannot but be a wrench, but all the same we realise that His Honour is leaving us to enjoy a richly earned relief from the labours of a lifetime in scenes so far removed from the land of his birth.

"Your Honour, as regards the war services of my State, with the nature of which you are thoroughly acquainted, I would say no more than that we have only discharged the duty we owed our benign King-Emperor and that I venture to hope His Majesty and his Government will be pleased to recognise that in proportion to our resources our record is not inferior to that of any other State in India.

"Gentlemen, before concluding I desire to pay a cordial tribute to the selfless efforts of Lady O'Dwyer towards ministering to the comforts of those who have suffered in the war and also the charm and tact with which she has played the part of châtelaine of Government House at Lahore and of Barnes Court at Simla. I regret that she and Miss O'Dwyer have not been able to be with us to-night but I trust His Honour will convey to them my best wishes for their future happiness."

His Honour Sir Michael O'Dwyer on rising to respond said :—

"YOUR HIGHNESS,

"I thank you most heartily for the very kind, but I fear I must add, unduly flattering words in which you have proposed my health. It is a great pleasure to have this opportunity of enjoying once more the warm welcome which Your Highness delights to extend to your guests, and it is a great regret to me that my wife and daughter, to whom I shall gladly convey Your Highness' kind message, should have been prevented by other duties from sharing your generous hospitality. Your Highness is a world-wide traveller, and in your beautiful home and its stately surroundings one sees everywhere the cultured taste which prompts Your Highness to seek knowledge and experience in other lands and climes. A visit to Kapurthala is, therefore, an event to which your guests look forward with the pleasurable anticipation; and at each visit I have seen marks of further progress and improvement.

"Just a fortnight ago Your Highness had the honour of entertaining His Excellency the Viceroy who, in giving the toast of Your Highness' health, dwelt on the distinguished war record of the Kapurthala State army. The record adds another proud chapter to the history of the State which, as far back as 1805, helped to drive the Mahrattas from the North of India,

and in so many subsequent campaigns—the 2nd Sikh War, the Mutiny, the Afghan and Tirah Wars—has been prompt to place its resources in men and money at the disposal of the British Government. Immediately on the outbreak of the great war in August 1914, Your Imperial Service Troops, 378 strong, were selected as part of the first contingent to proceed on active service and in September they sailed for East Africa. There they took part, almost as soon as they landed, in the battle of Longido. They sustained for over three years the difficult rôle of garrisoning outposts and patrolling that unhealthy country of wide distances and dense jungles under the command, first, of their stalwart Colonel Nihal Singh, O.B.I., and then of that distinguished soldier Major-General S. Puran Singh Bahadur, C.I.E., who enhanced the fine military reputation which he first earned 20 years ago in the Tirah Campaign. His Excellency the Viceroy in his speech paid a generous tribute to the services of the Regiment which received drafts of 300 men to repair the wastage casualties and did not return till the conquest of German East Africa was complete. The roll of honour included 62 deaths and bears on it the name of the Special Service Officer Major Gordon (whose place was taken up by Major Nicolas of the Punjab Commission) and of the gallant Subedar Jhaggar Singh. The battalion—which owes much to the training given it by Major Macbrayne and its other Inspecting Officers—was speedily refitted, its strength was increased, and it was keen and ready to take the Field again in Palastine or Mesopotamia when hostilities came to an end. But your Imperial Service Troops are only a portion of Kapurthala's contribution in man-power. When war broke out the Kapurthala State was represented in the Indian Army by under 900 men, inclusive of the Imperial Service Troops. When the war ended these numbers had been increased to about 5,000 men, or 1 in 30 of the male population exclusive of the extra companies of the Imperial Service Troop which Your Highness had generously raised to bring the strength of the unit to 1,600 men. That is an achievement worthy of the best traditions of the State which has always prided itself on its devotion to the person and the throne of His Majesty the King-Emperor, and the value of the State's loyal co-operation was organised when His Excellency the Viceroy specially invited Your Highness in April last year to be one of the two representatives of the Punjab Princes and Chiefs at the Delhi War Conference, and later on to give the Central Recruiting Board the benefit of your practical advice. Your Highness further stimulated

the recruiting efforts of the Darbar by entrusting the organisation of the war propaganda in the State last year to a Recruiting Board presided over by your third son Captain Kanwar Amarjit Singh, to whom an honorary King's Commission in the Army has been granted in recognition of his services in France and his zeal in developing the man-power of the State. In addition to the 14 distinctions which the Imperial Service Troops gained on active service, men of Kapurthala and the Indian Army have won an Order of British India, an Order of Merit, four Distinguished Service Medals, and two Foreign Decorations. In every movement to support the war, to relieve the wounded and distressed, to provide comforts for the troops in the Field, Your Highness and your Family have been the first to come forward, and Lady O'Dwyer desires me especially to thank Your Highness, your Family and people for the constant and generous support given to the Red Cross and Comforts Funds under her charge. Kapurthala has, indeed, done its duty nobly and with Your Highness' permission I will, this evening, show some recognition by Government of the successful efforts made by the more prominent workers in the common cause. This is the last occasion which I have of speaking in a Punjab State and I take the opportunity of expressing the deep obligations of the Punjab and the Punjab Government to the Punjab States as a body for their magnificent services during the War. In bearing the burdens of the War, in sharing its sacrifices, they have come fully up to the high standard set by the British Punjab and have set a noble example to the States of the Indian Empire. At the close of War, of 4 lakhs Punjabis with the colours, 50 thousand came from the Punjab States and their assistance in the matter of money and equipment had been on an even greater scale.

"Those great services were, as Your Highness says, rendered spontaneously from a sense of duty to the King-Emperor, but the Punjab is proud and glad that His Imperial Majesty has graciously signified his appreciation of them by the Honours and Dignities conferred on Your Highness and your brother Princes and Chiefs.

"But while in recent years the pre-occupations of the War have been paramount, Your Highness has not allowed the domestic needs of your people to be neglected and the Annual Administration Reports of the State bear witness to the care with which schemes for the improvement of irrigation and agriculture are being studied.

"Kapurthala is second to no State that I know in the efficiency and progressive character of its administration, the prosperity and contentment of its people and the result for which, after Your Highness, so much credit is due to Your Highness' very able Chief Minister, Khan Bahadur Abdul Hamid, O.B.E., is shown in their devotion to the Ruling House and their willing co-operation in a crisis such as that which is now happily past. In matters of common interest to Government and the Darbar, such as the repression of the *Ghadr* movement, the suppression of organised crime and the reclamation of the criminal tribes, there has been the most harmonious co-operation with the Punjab Government, and it is a great pleasure to me to hear from Your Highness that in the 28 years during which you have so worthily ruled your State, there has not been a single misunderstanding with the Punjab Government and its Agents, and I am sure that happy state of affairs will continue. Your Highness has wisely associated your sons in the management of State affairs and the Tikka Sahib especially in the critical year 1915 gave proof that the confidence is fully deserved. Your Highness, the pleasure of this visit to Your Highness and your State is saddened by the reflection that it is my last. But I shall take away with me very pleasant memories of my official relations and personal friendship with Your Highness. Your Highness, as I have said, is a great traveller. You might well say like Ulysses—

'For always roaming with an eager heart
Much have I seen and known, cities of men
And manners, climates, councils, Governments
Myself not least but honoured of them all.'

"For those who know you, honour in you, not only the capable and progressive Ruler, but the good sportsman, the cultured man of the world, the generous host, and the warm hearted friend."

On the 24th November 1915, His Highness completed 25 years of his enlightened rule. The celebration of this happy consummation was, for unavoidable reasons, postponed till the following March. Owing to the War the programme of festivities was simple in character. The poor were fed and the headmen of the villages were entertained. There was a State Procession through the gaily decorated streets of the Capital, ending up at the Gurdawara where a thanksgiving service was held, at which all the guests and the officials of the State were present. To perpetuate the memory of this occasion

His Highness laid the foundation-stone of a Hall, called the "Jubilee Memorial Hall." At the State Banquet to which 50 people had been invited, the Commissioner of Jullundur as the principal guest proposed the health of His Highness the Maharaja "congratulating him on the highly successful period of 25 years of his rule which had been completed, and expressing the cordial wish of the assembled guests that twenty-five years afterwards surrounded by prosperous, grateful and devoted subjects and with the same delightful *joie de vivre* which they saw that day, he would be celebrating his 'Golden Jubilee.'" A Darbar was held the next day, at which addresses were presented on behalf of the officials and subjects of the State to which His Highness made an appropriate reply, in the course of which he said :—

"I have already expressed my appreciation of the faithfulness that has consistently characterised my subjects and I feel that I cannot do enough to require it adequately. However, as a mark of my further confidence and affection for them, I wish to announce that, in order to associate them more intimately with my administration, I propose summoning once a year probably on the occasion of my birthday Darbar, a selected number of *Zaildars*, *Lambardars*, *Sahukars*, and other presentative people from the different tehsils, to meet here in a general assembly, when I can confer with them about general affairs concerning their welfare and when they will also be given an opportunity to submit to me in a proper manner their grievances or other representations : such as are not personal but which touch the interests of the community at large. This is only a rough outline of the proposal, but I hope in due course to elaborate the Scheme which I trust, under divine guidance, may, further advance the moral and material progress of my people." By the end of the year His Highness was able to inaugurate this Assëmbly.

The opening ceremony was performed with appropriate solemnity in an extraordinary Darbar at which His Highness delivered the following address :—

"Officials and Members of the Assembly,—You have met here to-day by my command to assist me in the establishment of an institution which, modest though it be in its inception, may, in time to come, prove to be the forerunner of representative institutions which should in my opinion be the goal of all civilised and progressive communities. It has long been my aim to take measures to associate my subjects more intimately

and directly with my Government, but you will realise that political evolution must come slowly and march abreast of the moral and intellectual progress of the times. The consistent loyalty of my people and the strides they have made intellectually, encouraged me to postpone the fulfilment of my fond desire no longer and to announce the concession at my Jubilee Darbar.

"You are perhaps aware that the experiment I am embarking on has never been tried in any of the Indian States in Northern India, except Bikaner, and its success or otherwise is bound to react on the prospects of its introduction elsewhere.

"The future development of the institution must depend on your own efforts and on the use you will make of the opportunity now afforded you of operating as the component parts of the administrative machinery of the State.

"I therefore earnestly enjoin you in your own interests and in those of the Ruler to whom you owe allegiance to approach the performance of the task that has been set you in a spirit of unshaken loyalty, fairness and *pro bono publico*.

"The strength of your Assembly has for the present been fixed at 50 together with three members representing the three principal religious denominations in my State in addition.

"The elective element has been introduced very cautiously but with the effluxion of time and experience I hope it may be possible to augment it. You will have noticed that in the allotment of seats I have endeavoured to ensure that 11 important interests should be represented. My anxiety to place the Assembly on a sound and firm basis will also be gauged from the fact that the nominations have been made with such care as to secure the inclusion of really useful men among my subjects.

"The agenda that has been laid down for your deliberations embrace topics that concern the general welfare of the various classes of my people. Broadly speaking, the questions relate to the existing legislation regarding the settlement of decretal liabilities, measures for the promotion of trade and commerce, and the improvement of communications.

"The fact that you have been asked to consider, discuss and submit proposals on matters of such importance to myself and my subjects is an earnest of my intention to develop gradually but steadily your connection with the vital problems which confront the administration.

"I anticipate a certain amount of divergence of opinion on one or two items but I want you to remember that the readiness with which you will sink and adjust your difference for the public weal and unanimously evolve a line of policy for submission to me for my approval will be regarded as a measure of your fitness to represent the population of the State as a whole rather than a particular class or creed.

"The terms of the solemn obligation that you will presently be called upon to undertake ought also to dictate to you the expediency of following the same course. If I am satisfied with the results I propose to extend to you, with effect from the next session, the right of initiating, with my previous approval and subject to proper rules, discussion on matters of general interest which you may consider it necessary to bring to my notice.

"Before concluding this pronouncement I cannot restrain myself from alluding to the colossal struggle in which our great Empire and its powerful allies are at present involved. I may tell you that originally I had a mind to adjourn the inauguration of the Assembly until after the War, but, acting on the doctrine that the business of the world must be transacted even when the booming of guns reverberate from the various corners of the globe, I decided to proceed with the redemption of the promise I had made at my Jubilee Darbar last March.

"Though the end of the war is not yet in sight, the stupendous efforts of our Empire and the allied countries must ere long fructify in unqualified victory.

"You are aware of the part I have so far played with your co-operation in these stirring events, but fresh efforts are needed, particularly in the recruitment of men not only for my own regiment which has been upholding our splendid traditions in East Africa for the past two years, but also for the British army whose interests are absolutely identical with ours.

"I take this opportunity, therefore, of calling on you, members of the Assembly, the representatives of my people, to gird your loins in rendering in this behalf all moral and practical assistance in your power. By doing so you will only be accelerating the triumph of a just cause.

"Members of the Assembly, in extending to you a cordial welcome and in declaring the Assembly open, I devoutly pray that Providence may always guide your labours into channels

that will lead to the furtherance of the good of our people and the greater glory of my House and State.

"I invoke His choicest blessings on us all and formally declare the Assembly of the State open."

The fidelity of Kapurthala to the British Raj is beyond question. The present Ruler has fully maintained the glorious traditions of his house in this respect. In 1878-79, on the outbreak of the Afghan War the State troops composed of 500 Infantry, 100 Cavalry, three guns and a hundred Artillery rendered active service on the Bannu Frontier under General Watson. The detachment was highly spoken of by the British Officers for its discipline and good conduct. In 1897, the Maharaja despatched his Imperial Service Regiment (which was formed in 1888) for active service in connection with the Tirah Campaign. The regiment received its baptism of fire and gave an excellent account of itself. A detachment of 36 rank and file lost its way at Kurmana in the Kurrum Valley and was ambushed by a relentless enemy. This small force put up a gallant defence against superior odds and preferred heroic death to abject surrender. An obelisk erected in the vicinity of the Regimental Lines marks for ever the Maharaja's tribute to the heroism of this ill-fated but valiant detachment.

His Highness was one of the first among the princes who, on the outbreak of the great war, offered to place all his resources at the disposal of the British Government. The Kapurthala Imperial Service Regiment was despatched in the middle of September for active service in East Africa, where it remained for nearly four years and did excellent work. His Highness himself visited the battle front in France in 1917 while his third son, Captain Maharaj Kumar Amarjit Singh Sahib, served with the Indian Contingent for more than a year.

It may not be out of place to refer at this point to the State Administration Report (1916-17) which gives in a compact form a complete catalogue of the numerous other services the State rendered to hasten the victory of the Empire.

1. One extra company of 100 men as an addition to the Regiment.

2. The Indian War Relief Fund, Rs. 39,945 (including the subscriptions of State officials and subjects).

3. Towards the Prince of Wales' Relief Fund, Rs. 7,500.

4. Extra war expenses in 1915, Rs. 1,00,000.

5. Extra expenses of the State Regiment in 1916, Rs. 50,000.

6. Supply of babul bark free of cost, worth Rs. 3,000

7. St. John's Ambulance Fund, Punjab, in 1916, Rs. 500.

8. Comforts for soldiers in East Africa, Rs. 5,000.

9. Twelve horses free of cost.

10. Twelve Transport Drivers.

11. Rupees 25,000 paid through the Punjab Government for the purchase of Motor Ambulances in 1917.

12. Rs. 25,000 paid through the Government of the United Provinces for the purchase of Motor Ambulances in 1917.

13. Twenty-eight mules supplied free of cost.

14. Forty-four camels free of cost.

15. Sixteen Sarwans maintained at the cost of the State during the war.

16. The strength of the dépôt of the Imperial Service Regiment nearly doubled costing roughly Rs. 20,000 annually.

17. Free rations to the dépôt granted, estimated to cost Rs. 30,000 per annum.

18. Double pay to the rank and file of the Regiment in the field and Bhatta to mounted officers in addition to that granted by Government.

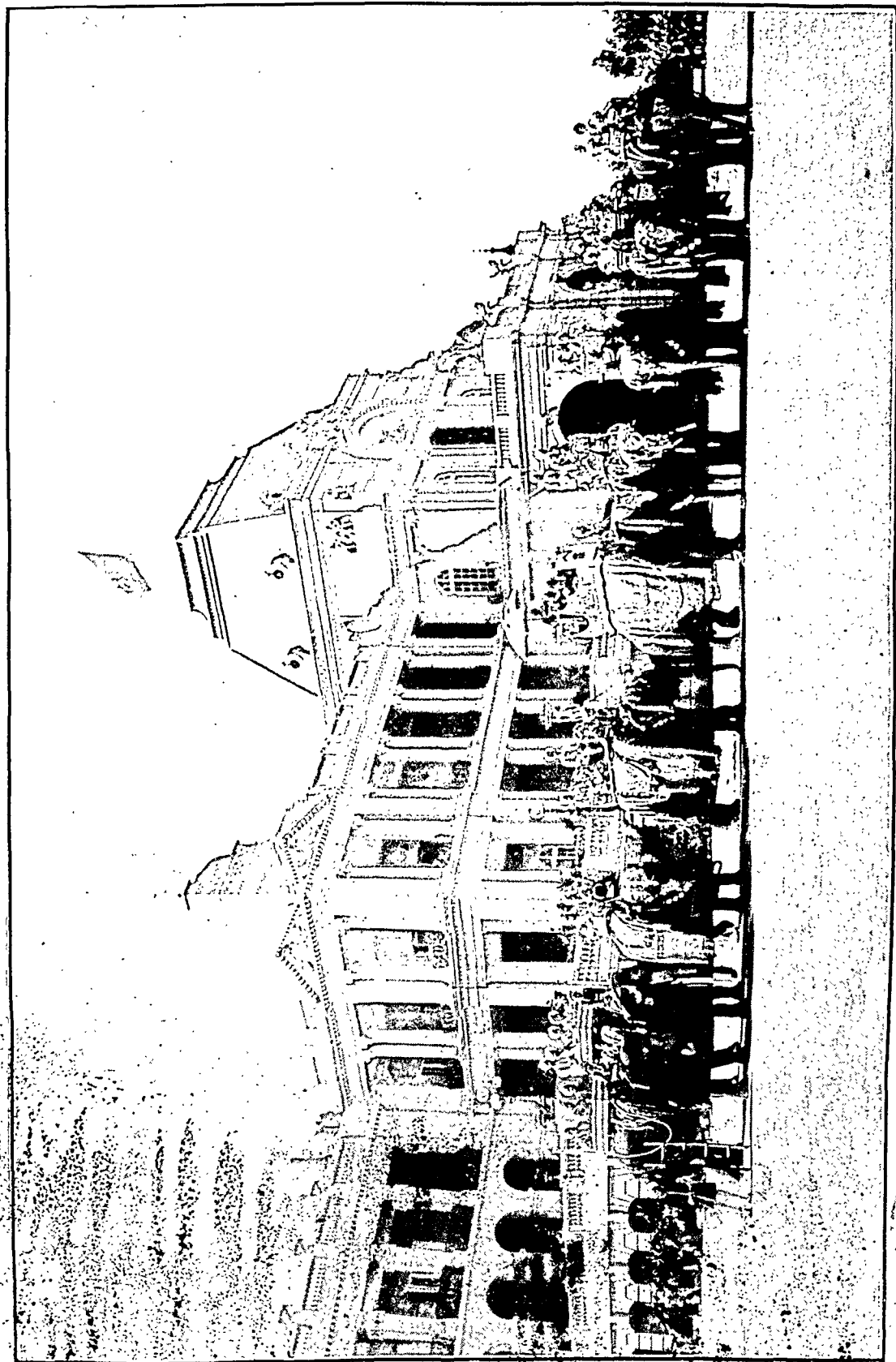
19. English War Loan, Rs. 3 lakhs.

20. Indian War Loan, Rs. 4 lakhs (including subscription of State officials and subjects).

21. French War Loan, Rs. 2,50,000.

22. Four thousand recruits supplied to the Indian Army.

In 1918, in response to the stirring appeal of the British Prime Minister, His Highness offered to raise the strength of his Imperial Service Infantry to 1,600 men. For a long period during the great war the strength of the Unit was actually above 1,000. His Highness' final contribution towards this gigantic struggle was his offer, which was accepted, to waive the recovery of a sum of four lakhs payable by the Government of India on account of extra war expenses of the Kapurthala Imperial Service Regiment. Since the conclusion of the war the Regiment has again been on active service in Seistan



number nearly 300, a result which would compare favourably with probably any district in the Punjab.

The Medical and Sanitary Department is working at a high pitch of efficiency. There is a well-equipped hospital for males and another for females in the Capital. There is a State Dispensary at the head-quarters of each tehsil where free medical relief is afforded. The Capital is equipped with a pure water-supply and an efficient system of drainage.

For administrative purposes the State is divided into five tehsils, namely, Kapurthala, Sultanpur, Phagwara, Bholath and Bhunga. The Tehsildars have recently been relieved of judicial duties and are in charge of Revenue and Executive work only. The Judicial work is carried on by Munsiffs who have powers to hear Civil and Revenue cases up to Rs. 1,000. The highest Court of Appeal is the Chief Court which consists of three judges, but the power of passing sentences of life and death vests in His Highness the Maharaja himself.

The three towns Kapurthala, Phagwara and Sultanpur possess Municipalities, the constitution of which has lately been considerably liberalised. His Highness has sanctioned the creation of Panchayats for rural areas with powers to hear and decide Civil cases up to the value of Rs. 100. In this respect the State might well claim to be ahead of the Punjab and the Punjab States.

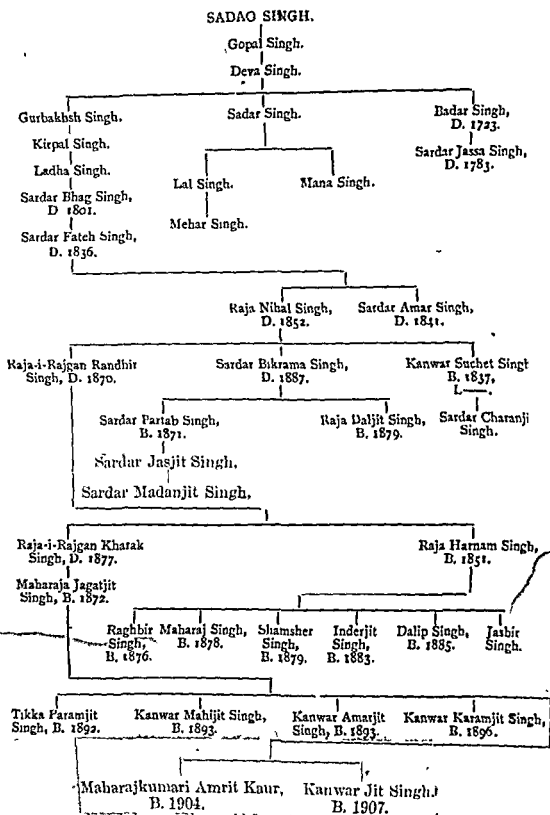
A State Council, with Sri Tikka Sahib as President and the Chief Minister as Vice-President, has recently been formed. This body submits to His Highness its considered opinion on matters of general importance.

The gross income of the State including the Oudh Estates is roughly 35 lakhs.

His Highness' versatility is not confined to the activities outlined above. He takes an important share in the deliberations of the Princes' Conference, now grown into Princes' Chamber, and his views carry considerable weight with his brother Princes. His contributions to the debates at these gatherings always bear evidence of a robust common sense and a wide knowledge of human affairs. It is interesting to recall that the resolution conveying the united congratulations of the Princes to His Majesty the King-Emperor on the glorious conclusion of the war was moved by His Highness the Maharaja.

GENEALOGICAL TABLE -
and
Important Sanads and Treaties.

GENEALOGICAL TABLE OF KAPURTHALA RULING FAMILY.



**Firman of His Imperial Majesty Alumgeer II,
Emperor of Hindustan, to Raja Jassa Singh,
Ahluwalia.**

Imperial
Seal.

To

The loyal and faithful Jassa Singh, worthy of favour, honoured with Imperial grace, be it known unto you :—

As a mark of supreme favour and appreciation this auspicious Firman is being issued with a view to inform you that your report has received the honour of our perusal and that your good services have met with our approbation. Whatever Talooqas, Futtehabad, etc., belonging to Purgunnah Puttee, Haibutpore, and Talooqas Sutbialah, Kot Mathah, etc., of Purgunnah Ballalah, and the Talooqas Purgunnah Dabyarar are under your control and possession, shall continue, as heretofore, to be held by you as a free grant and you are hereby empowered, as in the case of other Jagirdars, to levy tribute from the Jagirdars of the towns of Komhora, Khery, Kothah.

We condemn the troubles the faithful Hari Singh has caused among the people of his part of the country. He must abstain from molesting them in any way in future.

It behoves you to repair to our Imperial presence under the care of Nawab Zenoolabdeen Khan of exalted rank and dignity so that your authority and rank may be duly regulated in the country.

Written on the 7th day of the auspicious month of Ramzan, 1171 Hijra, corresponding to the 4th year of our august reign (1753 Christian era),

Firman of the Emperor Ahmad Shah Dooranee.

Seal of
Emperor
Ahmad Shah Dooranee.

To

The faithful and upright Raja Jassa Singh, Ahluwalia, honoured with manifold Imperial favours, be it known unto you :—

It has been brought to our notice that you and the other Rajas of your parts are at feud among yourselves. You must remember that besides your old Jagir, past possessions and the service grants of Meerunpore, Jansut, etc., forming part of the Trans-Sutlej Purgunnah Tihora in the environs of Sirhind, we have granted you 52 villages of the Talooqa of Futtehabad, etc. The Rajas of those parts, who have in the past owed you allegiance, must continue to acknowledge your

supremacy and must never swerve from the path of fealty and obedience to you ; and the Rajas who have hitherto been under the sway of Raja Amar Singh Phool shall continue as such, and the territories along the Sutlej in the direction of Pak Patun shall remain in the possession of himself and his brother as heretofore. It is improper for you to quarrel with each other. We enjoin you, Raja Amar Singh, and Raja Abha Chand of Kanouj, to consider yourselves duty bound to obey Nawab Zenoolabdeen Khan. Accordingly, we depute our right trusty and faithful Mahomed Hossein Khan to proceed to those parts in charge of this our Royal command, on receipt whereof each of you shall be fortified in your allegiance to us and be secured in your respective possession. Therein lies your welfare and safety. You shall at once cease your intervenient feuds and in the event of failure to comply you shall be held to account. You are exhorted to make known this our command to the other Rajas who shall regard it as a mandate invested with full Royal authority.

Dated 23rd Ramzan, 1174 Hijra, corresponding to 1756 Christian era.

Firman of the Emperor Ahmad Shah Dooranee.

Seal of
Emperor
Ahmad Shah Dooranee.

To

Our faithful and dutiful Raja Jassa Singh, Ahluwalia.

As your devotion and loyalty have met with our Royal approbation your Talooqa of Futtehabad, etc., which has for a long time been held by you as revenue free shall in future continue in your possession on identical terms and as a further mark of our Imperial favour the Talooqa of Patta is assigned to you in lieu of Meerunpore. Moreover it has reached our ears that Hari Singh is causing trouble in his own and other territories ; it behoves you in no case to allow him to interfere but drive him back to Mooltan, his original home We accredit our devoted Mohammed Hossein to communicate to you certain important matters bearing on the situation. Our Imperial command has been conveyed to the other Rajas, directing them to remain subordinate to you, to please the Raja of Patiala by remaining at peace with him, to stick to their respective boundaries and to cherish lasting gratitude for our unceasing Imperial favours.

Written on the 11th day of Rujub, 1192 Hijra, corresponding to 1774 Christian era.

TREATY OF 1806.

Treaty concluded between Lieutenant-Colonel John Malcolm, under the special authority of the Right Hon'ble Lord Lake, himself duly

authorised by the Hon'ble Sir George Hilario Barlow, Baronet, Governor-General of the one part and Sardar Fateh Singh in his own behalf and as agent and plenipotentiary of Ranjit Singh of the other part :—

ARTICLE I.

Sardar Ranjit Singh and Sardar Fateh Singh, Ahluwalia, hereby undertake to cause Jaswant Rao Holkar to retire to a distance of 30 kos from Amritsar immediately and never to befriend him or render him military or any other assistance in future. They further undertake not to place any obstacles in the way of such of Jaswant Rao Holkar's Deccan troops as may wish to return home and that they shall, on the contrary, furnish them with safe conduct up to the limits of their territories.

ARTICLE II.

The British Government hereby undertakes that failing an amicable understanding with Jaswant Rao Holkar, and should the Sardars succeed in driving him back to a distance of 30 kos from Amritsar, the British army shall withdraw from its present position along the river Beas ; and in case Jaswant Rao Holkar should at any time come to terms with the British Government, the treaty shall ensure Holkar's immediate evacuation of Sikh territory and exact from him an undertaking not to cause therein any damage or destruction along the line of march. The British Government further agrees that as long as the said Chiefs Ranjit Singh and Fateh Singh abstain from friendly dealings with its enemies or from committing any act of hostility against the said Government, the British armies shall never enter the territories of the said Chiefs nor shall the British Government violate the integrity of their possessions.

Dated 1st January 1806, corresponding to the 10th Shawal, 1220 Hijra.

Seal of
Ranjit Singh.

Seal of
Fateh Singh.

SANAD.

The Governor-General of India, to the Raja of Kapurthala.

After Compliments,

I have had the great satisfaction of receiving from Sir John Lawrence, G.C.B., Chief Commissioner of the Punjab, an account of your deeds of loyalty and fidelity during the late disturbances, of the good services performed by your troops in the Jullundur Doab, commanded by yourself and your brother, Kanwar Bikrama Singh, and of the constant and unwavering support which you have given to the officers of the British Government,

The Government of India has ever been ready to reward munificently all those who have faithfully and loyally rendered aid in times of difficulty, and your well-timed and valuable services call for marked acknowledgment at my hands.

Wherefore I have resolved, on the part of the Government of India : (1) That one year's tribute shall be entirely remitted to you ; (2) that your annual tribute shall in future be reduced by Rs. 25,000 ; (3) that a Khillat of Rs 15,000 shall be bestowed upon you ; (4) that you shall henceforth receive a *salute of 11 guns*; and (5) that your honorary title shall be hereafter as follows :—

“Farzand-i-Dilband Rasikh-ul-Itiqad.”

I have also conferred on your brother, Kanwar Bikrama Singh, who is deserving of reward, the title of “Bahadur” with a Khillat of Rs. 5,000.

Consider me as always anxious to hear of your welfare.

(Sd.) CANNING.

Dated 2nd June 1858.

Sanad granting the Estates of Boundee and Bithowlee to Raja Randhir Singh Bahadur of Kapurthala.

Whereas it appears from the report of the Chief Commissioner of Oudh, that during the disturbances Raja Randhir Singh Bahadur Ahluwalia, from loyalty to the British Government, came in person to Lucknow at the head of his troops and rendered valuable service ; as a mark of satisfaction, I hereby confer upon Raja Randhir Singh Bahadur, the Zamindari of Boundee and Bithowlee at half revenue in *Istumrree* tenure, on the condition that in time of difficulty and danger the Raja shall render military and political service. It is understood that this grant confers on the Raja only the rights enjoyed by the former proprietors of the above Zamindari, and nothing more.

A Khillat of the value of Rs 10,000 (ten thousand rupees) is bestowed upon the Raja.

(Sd.) CANNING,

Viceroy and Governor-General of India.

15th April 1859.

Precedence over all Oudh Chiefs.

Abstract from a letter from the Secretary to the Government of India, to the address of the Chief Commissioner of Oudh, No. 1501, dated the 25th April 1860.

In reply to your, Officiating Secretary's letter No. 123, dated the 19th instant, I am directed to inform you that the Governor-General

approves of your proposition to give the Raja of Kapurthala precedence of all Oudh Chiefs and to invest him with the full powers of a Magistrate.

No. 744.

From

The Offg. Secretary to Chief Commissioner, Oudh,

To

His Highness Randhir Singh, Raja of Kapurthala.

Lucknow, 3rd April 1861.

SIR,

By desire of the Chief Commissioner of Oudh, I have the honour to forward for your information the copy of a Government letter No. 1096 of 12th ultimo, whereby it will be observed that His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General of India in Council has conferred on you the title of "Raja Rajgan."

2. I am to add that a letter to the above effect has been written for the information of the Government of the Punjab, and a Circular addressed to all officers in this Province for their guidance.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant,

(Sd.)

Offg. Secretary.

Sanad.

No. 1096.

From

The Under-Secretary to the Government of India,

To

The Chief Commissioner, Oudh.

Fort William, 12th March 1861.

SIR,

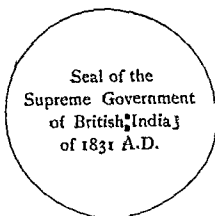
In reply to your Officiating Secretary's letter of 20th ultimo, No. 312, I am directed by the Governor-General in Council to inform you that the title of Maharaja cannot be conferred on the Raja of Kapurthala, but the Governor-General in Council considers it reasonable that the

Raja should have a mark of dignity above that of an ordinary Oudh Raja and sanctions his being addressed as *Raja-i-Rajgan*

I have, etc., etc.,

(Sd.) HUTCHINSON,

Military Secretary to the Government of India.



Sanad.

To

Farzand-i-Dilband Rasikh-ul-Itiqad Raja-i-Rajgan Raja Randhir Singh Bahadur of Kapurthala.

Her Majesty being desirous that the Governments of the several Princes and Chiefs in India, who now govern their own Territories should be perpetuated and that the representation and dignity of their Houses should be continued, I hereby, in fulfilment of this desire, convey to you the assurance that, on failure of natural Heirs, the ADOPTION BY YOURSELF AND FUTURE RULERS OF YOUR STATE of a successor according to Hindu Law and to the customs of your race, will be Recognised and Confirmed.

BE ASSURED that nothing shall disturb the engagement thus made to you so long as your House is loyal to the Crown and faithful to the conditions of the Treaties, Grants, or Engagements which record its obligation to the British Government.

(Sd.) CANNING;

Viceroy and Governor-General of India.

5th March 1862.

Sanad.

To

His Highness Farzand-i-Dilband Rasikh-ul-Itiqad Daulat-i-
Englishia Raja-i-Rajgan Raja Sir Jagatjit Singh
Bahadur, K.C.S.I., of Kapurthala in the Punjab.

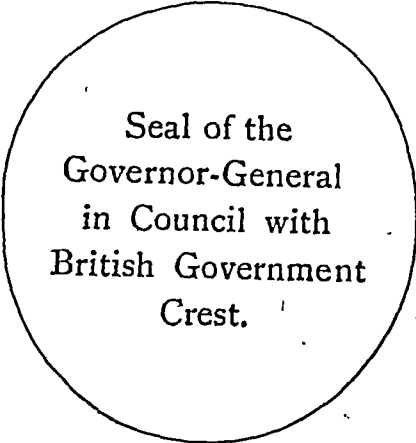
I HEREBY CONFER UPON YOU THE TITLE OF MAHA-
RAJA AS AN HEREDITARY DISTINCTION.

DELHI :

(Sd.) HARDINGE OF PENSHURST,

The 12th February 1911.

Governor-General of India.



Seal of the
Governor-General
in Council with
British Government
Crest.

*Copy of a telegram, dated Bombay, the 31st December 1917, from His
Excellency the Viceroy, to His Highness the Maharaja of Kapurthala.*

His Majesty has been pleased in recognition of valuable services in connection with the War to increase Your Highness' permanent salute to thirteen guns a personal salute of fifteen guns, to grant Your Highness the honorary rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. Please accept my hearty congratulations.

*Copy of a letter No. 964, dated the 16th February 1918, from the Com-
missioner, Jullundur Division, to the Chief Secretary to His Highness
the Maharaja of Kapurthala.*

I have the honour to state, for the information of the Darbar, that His Imperial Majesty the King-Emperor of India has been graciously pleased to sanction, for services in connection with the War, the following alterations in, and additions to, the Table of Salutes for Ruling Princes and Chiefs :—

Permanent Salute.

His Highness the Maharaja of Kapurthala, 13 guns.

Personal Salute.

His Highness the Farzand-i-Dilband Rasikh-ul-Itiqad Daulat-i-
Englishia Raja-i-Rajgan Lieutenant-Colonel Maharaja Sir Jagatjit
Singh Bahadur, G.C.S.I., Maharaja of Kapurthala, 15 guns.

Sanad.

To

His Highness the Maharaja of Kapurthala.

WHEREAS in accordance with the orders issued by the Chief Commissioner, Cis and Trans-Sutlej States in the year 1848, all Sentences of Death passed by the Raja of Kapurthala were referred to the Commissioner, Jullundur Division, for confirmation, and

WHEREAS in the year 1902 in consideration of the efficient administration of Criminal Justice in the Kapurthala State, His Highness the Raja (now Maharaja) was invested with unrestricted Power to pass Sentences of Death upon his Subjects on the following conditions, namely,—

- (1) that the power should apply only to subjects of the Kapurthala State;
- (2) that in the event of the Raja's absence from the State satisfactory arrangements should be made with the approval of the Lieutenant-Governor and, if necessary, with the sanction of the Government of India, for the discharge of the responsible functions which will now be exercised by His Highness;
- (3) that the privilege, which was conferred in the assurance that the Judicial system in the State was efficient and that the power of passing Death Sentences without restriction would not be abused, should be liable to revocation, if subsequent experience proved that assurance to have been not well founded—

AND WHEREAS, in view of the continued efficiency of the Judicial system in the State and as a mark of confidence in His Highness' loyalty and in recognition of his rank and position among the Ruling Princes and Chiefs in the Punjab, it has been decided to make the privilege permanent subject to the conditions hereinbefore mentioned,

—Therefore His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General is pleased, in token thereof, to grant this *SANAD* to Lieutenant-Colonel HIS HIGHNESS FARZAND-I-DILBAND RASIKH-UL-ITIQAE DAULAT-I-INGLISHIA RAJA-I-RAJGAN MAHARAJA SIR JAGATJIT SINGH BAHADUR, G.C.S.I., of KAPURTHALA and to His Successors.

SIMLA:

(Sd.) CHELMSFORD,

The 29th June 1918

Viceroy and Governor-General of India.

